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CHAIRPERSON JAMES:

Mark Bogdan?

MR. BOGDAN: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen, my name is Mark Bogdan. I'm here to discuss the administrative information needed at this point.

As Mr. Snowden had mentioned, each of you

1 has a blue packet. I would request that if you could
2 to please complete the forms that are in there today
3 if possible. Then, I can collect them from you and
4 get you started as actual members in the government at
5 this point.

6 In addition to that, I want to go over how
7 you're going to handle your travel expenses for this
8 meeting. Okay?

9 According to the law that set up this
10 Commission, the Commission shall be allowed travel
11 expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence,
12 at rates authorized for employees of agencies under
13 subchapter 1 of Chapter 57 of Title V, United States
14 Code, while away from their homes or regular places of
15 business in the performance of service for this
16 Commission.

17 What this means in terms of this meeting
18 we're at now -- the actual cost of your air fare will
19 be reimbursed up to the cost of coach seating. In
20 addition, you will also be reimbursed for your costs
21 of travel to the airports, hotel, meetings, and back
22 to your residences. This can be costs incurred in

1 either vehicles for hire or use of your own personal
2 vehicle. And if you use your own personal vehicle,
3 the reimbursement is at 33 cents per mile, plus any
4 parking that you incur.

5 For your expenses for lodging, Federal
6 Travel Regulations permit reimbursement for actual
7 cost up to a maximum of \$207 per night of necessary
8 lodging expense for this meeting.

9 Additionally, for your expenses related to
10 meals and incidentals, Federal Travel Regulations
11 permit per diem reimbursement up to \$42 for a full day
12 on this meeting, and on partial days, a quarterly
13 breakdown of that. And these expenses are related for
14 the D.C. area. For other meetings, the dollars would
15 be different.

16 Additionally, for future meetings, we are
17 hoping to establish a centralized billing account,
18 whereby the air fare and lodging expenses will be
19 handled separately by the Commission, rather than
20 personally by yourselves as at this meeting.

21 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And for that, we are
22 all truly grateful.

1 MR. BOGDAN: Basically, at this point,
2 that's all I really have to mention administratively
3 for you. If anyone has any questions --

4 MR. SNOWDEN: Let me just add to Mark, you
5 don't have to remember the quarter days and how much
6 -- just send everything to Mark, and he'll figure it
7 out. The only thing that he needs to know is what
8 time you left home and what time you arrived, and he
9 needs to know any ground transportation costs. And
10 we'll figure the rest out. You don't need to do the
11 math. And we need tickets and hotel receipts. You
12 don't need receipts for meals or any of that.

13 COMMISSIONER LANNI: How about taxicabs?

14 MR. SNOWDEN: No. We need receipts for
15 anything above \$75. So if you incur ground
16 transportation or meals that exceed -- if you have a
17 meal of \$75, I hope you enjoyed it, because you're
18 only going to get \$42.

19 (Laughter.)

20 You can enjoy that.

21 And again, just to -- I mean, the
22 government will only allow you to fly coach. That

1 doesn't mean you can't fly first class. That is not
2 to say that the government restricts you. We just
3 won't pay for it.

4 But just send your receipts to Mark, and
5 we'll get that taken care of.

6 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Any questions from the
7 Commissioners for this panel?

8 Yes, Mr. Wilhelm?

9 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I just want to say,
10 Mr. Snowden and the group -- everybody dumps on the
11 government and government employees -- I really
12 appreciate the competence and clarity of you and your
13 group.

14 MR. SNOWDEN: Thank you.

15 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And again, I would
16 like to personally thank you. I have expressed to
17 each of the Commissioners how grueling it has been
18 preparing for this meeting, and it could not have been
19 done without the competent staff and GSA, their
20 advice, their counsel, and their hard work.

21 And so we would like to acknowledge that
22 today, and I would ask the Commission to join me in

1 thanking them for their service to us up to this point
2 and for the future. And we do, indeed, thank you for
3 what you have done.

4 COMMISSIONER LANNI: Madam Chair?

5 COMMISSIONER LANNI: I think the
6 Commission should also thank you for your leadership
7 in working with GSA to make this an effective
8 transition.

9 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Well, thank you, and
10 I do appreciate that.

11 Well, the Chair is going to exercise a
12 prerogative at this point. And you know that break
13 that we skipped a little earlier? How about it now?
14 Let's take a 10-minute break.

15 (Whereupon, the proceedings in the
16 foregoing matter went off the record at
17 10:33 a.m. and went back on the record at
18 10:51 a.m.)

19 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: The Commission is
20 going to go into Executive Session to discuss some
21 personnel matters. When we come out of that Executive
22 Session, we will have a discussion and hopefully draw
23 some conclusions on some personnel issues.

1 So it's at this point that I would
2 request that members of the press and the public
3 excuse themselves. I would anticipate, although I
4 can't guarantee, that this should not take more than
5 15 to 20 minutes, so I wouldn't go too far.

6 I would also say that it is the intention
7 of the Commission to have a working lunch. And so
8 when we come back together, we're going to work right
9 through. The Commissioners will be provided some
10 sandwiches and snacks, so you may want to grab a quick
11 bite to eat while we are in Executive Session, if you
12 want to stay with us for the rest of the afternoon.
13 Please feel free to do that, and we will wait for the
14 room to clear while we go into Executive Session.

15 (Whereupon, at 10:53 a.m., the Commission
16 went into Executive Session.)

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